

# Exhibit 1

June 06, 2018

CROWSON v LAROWE  
Dr. Judd Larowe

1

1 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

2 CENTRAL DIVISION

3

4

5 MARTIN CROWSON, ) **COPY**  
6 Plaintiff, )  
7 vs. ) Case No.  
8 JUDD LAROWE, BRET LYMAN, et al., ) 2:15-CV-880-RJS  
9 Defendant. ) Judge Tena  
 ) Campbell  
10 \_\_\_\_\_ )  
11  
12  
13 DEPOSITION OF DR. JUDD LAROWE

14 Taken at the Courtyard Marriott  
15 185 South 1470 East  
St. George, Utah

16 On Wednesday, June 6, 2018  
17 At 9:03 A.M.  
18  
19  
20  
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22  
23  
24

25 Reported by: J. Elizabeth Robison, RPR, CCR

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1 private contractor. I provide medical care for the  
2 inmates in coordination with the medical department  
3 at Purgatory. So I'm not actually the medical  
4 director. I believe that title falls to Jon  
5 Worlton.

6 Q. All right. And is it -- okay. Private  
7 contractor. Let's just talk briefly about what the  
8 terms of your arrangement with the jail are.

9 Are you on a flat fee, or do they pay you  
10 by hour, or how does it work?

11 A. It's a flat fee.

12 Q. Do they pay you monthly for that?

13 A. They do.

14 Q. Is that the same regardless of the amount  
15 of time you put in working there?

16 A. Yes, it is.

17 Q. As a private contractor, do you have  
18 access to their record-keeping systems?

19 A. Only when I'm on site.

20 Q. No remote access, then?

21 A. There is not.

22 Q. Do -- how does the -- how do the employees  
23 at the jail communicate with you?

24 A. Several methods. Either via phone or text  
25 or faxes, and they will either fax my office, call

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1       Q.    Okay.  In 2014, Mr. Borrowman was working  
2 at the jail as a nurse when this happened.

3           Did you have another nurse practitioner or  
4 a physician's assistant that helped you at that  
5 time?

6       A.    I did.  Her name was Amy Benedict.

7       Q.    Does Amy still work for you?

8       A.    She does not.

9       Q.    When did Amy stop working for you?

10      A.    I believe March of last year.

11      Q.    Is she a nurse practitioner --

12      A.    Oh, I'm sorry.

13      Q.    Oh, go ahead.

14      A.    Actually, June of last year.

15      Q.    Is she a nurse practitioner or a  
16 physician's assistant?

17      A.    Nurse practitioner.

18      Q.    Do you know where she is now?

19      A.    She is working for the Heart of Dixie, a  
20 cardiology group in town.

21      Q.    Do you know if Amy had any involvement  
22 with Mr. Crowson's case?

23      A.    None whatsoever.

24      Q.    Outside of the jail's record-keeping  
25 system, do you keep any records on inmates?

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1 A. I do not.

2 Q. Do you keep any log of phone calls that  
3 you receive?

4 A. I do not.

5 Q. If you receive a fax from someone at the  
6 jail, is that kept anywhere?

7 A. If I receive a fax from the jail, I  
8 respond to the fax and send it back to them, so  
9 that that would be where the record would stay. I  
10 don't keep any independent files.

11 Q. All right. So you, personally, do not  
12 have any files related to Mr. Crowson at all?

13 A. I do not.

14 Q. Okay. Do you have any independent memory  
15 of these events at all?

16 A. I do.

17 Q. What do you remember?

18 A. The best that I can recall, I remember  
19 getting a phone call from Mike Johnson. And what  
20 he relayed to me was that a patient was having some  
21 difficulties, as far as confusion, and the vital  
22 signs were not very revealing. They were pretty  
23 reasonable at the time. And I remember -- what I  
24 remember independently is that we ordered some  
25 blood work, a chest x-ray. I just wanted to get a

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1 better feel for what was going on, because his case  
2 was not clear-cut. And we moved him, at that  
3 point, into booking for closer observation.

4 And then I also remember a call from Ryan  
5 Borrowman, and at that time, the vital signs had  
6 changed. They had gone outside of the normal  
7 range. I believe most specifically the pulse rate  
8 had risen. And at that point, you know, I elected  
9 to have him transported to the emergency room.

10 Those are my only recollections of the  
11 plaintiff. I actually don't recall any  
12 interactions prior to that or after that. I'm not  
13 even sure I saw him in sick call, so I just don't  
14 recall.

15 Q. Okay. Do you remember, with Mike Johnson,  
16 was it one phone call or --

17 A. I only recall one phone call on that.

18 Q. Okay. As far as evaluating patients, it's  
19 true you rely on nurses there in large part when  
20 you're not there; right?

21 A. I do.

22 Q. In fact, there's no other way to do it, is  
23 there?

24 A. There is not.

25 Q. They've got to be your eyes and ears?

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1 A. They are.

2 Q. Do you perform any training of the nurses  
3 there or the staff?

4 A. I do not.

5 Q. Do you have any interactions with Jon  
6 Worlton about training?

7 A. I don't recall that I have.

8 Q. If someone there were to ask you to come  
9 provide training to the staff, is that something  
10 that you would be able to do?

11 A. I would.

12 Q. Have you ever had any communications with  
13 Jon Worlton about this particular case?

14 A. The only communications I've had was that  
15 there would be a case.

16 Q. Did you speak with him at all about his  
17 involvement or lack of involvement?

18 A. I specifically did not.

19 Q. Okay. How about Ryan Borrowman? Have you  
20 spoken with Mr. Borrowman about the case?

21 A. We have specifically not. In fact, we  
22 discussed not discussing the case.

23 Q. Okay. And the same question with Mike  
24 Johnson?

25 A. We have not discussed the case.

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1 Q. How often do you have contact with  
2 Mr. Johnson?

3 A. Quite often. Whenever he works a shift, I  
4 will get phone calls. So I have contact with the  
5 nursing staff at Purgatory daily.

6 Q. All right. I want to go back to that  
7 phone call with Mr. Johnson.

8 You said you ordered blood work?

9 A. I did.

10 Q. What were you looking for?

11 A. Any clues as to what was going on.

12 Anything that would help in the evaluation of the  
13 plaintiff.

14 Q. Okay.

15 A. So I ordered a CBC, which is a complete  
16 blood count. And a comprehensive metabolic panel,  
17 and that looks at a variety of items. It can give  
18 you an idea about whether or not the patient might  
19 be acidotic or septic. It can give you an idea  
20 about kidney function, liver function,  
21 electrolytes, fasting blood sugar. So it's quite  
22 valuable in assessment.

23 Q. Okay. And when you order -- had that  
24 ordered, were you looking for anything specific, or  
25 were you -- is it just sort of a, "Hey, this is a

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1       Q.    Is there a day of the week that you go out  
2 to the jail?

3       A.    Usually Tuesdays, sometimes Thursdays.

4       Q.    Okay. During the time period, from  
5 6-25-2014 to 7-1-2014, do you know what day you  
6 went out to the hosp -- or to the prison, if you  
7 did go out to the prison?

8       A.    I don't have a clue. I don't remember  
9 when Tuesday would have fallen in that year. And  
10 in addition, Tuesdays and Thursdays are my current  
11 schedule. I've gone Mondays. I've gone  
12 Wednesdays. So I'm not even sure on that.

13      Q.    Okay. No record -- do you have a record  
14 of when you went to the jail?

15      A.    I do not.

16      Q.    Do you have a memory of seeing Mr. Crowson  
17 at all?

18      A.    I don't recall ever seeing Mr. Crowson,  
19 either during this time frame or any other time  
20 frame.

21      Q.    Okay.

22      A.    I may have. I just have no recollection  
23 of it.

24      Q.    When you do see a patient, do you record  
25 it in the CorEMR?

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1       A. I do. There is a note for each visit that  
2 I perform.

3       Q. Okay. So if you had seen Mr. Crowson,  
4 then your name would appear here, in that third  
5 column; is that correct?

6       A. I have no idea on where it would occur.

7       Q. Okay.

8       A. So they have an electronic medical record,  
9 and I enter in my visits. Where it would appear or  
10 not appear, I don't have a clue.

11      Q. All right. Have you seen anything in the  
12 records, that you've reviewed, that would indicate  
13 that you did, personally, see Mr. Crowson?

14      A. I have seen no records of my personal  
15 evaluation of Mr. Crowson.

16      Q. Okay. On 6-28-14, Mr. Johnson noted that,  
17 "The BP," I assume that's blood pressure, "is  
18 elevated at this time and reported to MD."

19      A. I'm sorry. What day?

20      Q. On 6-28-14, at 2:07 P.M.

21      A. I don't recall that. So...

22      Q. Okay.

23      A. It certainly could have happened. I don't  
24 recall.

25      Q. What's -- in terms of what you would have

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1 withdrawal symptoms from heroin similar to what  
2 they are from methamphetamine?

3 MR. MCGARRY: Object as to form.

4 A. The withdrawal symptoms to heroin, once  
5 again, very nonspecific: Nausea, diaphoresis,  
6 tachycardia, tachypnea, elevated blood pressure.  
7 And those might last longer than methamphetamine.  
8 The half-life for heroin is going to be a little  
9 longer.

10 Q. Okay. And when you say a little bit  
11 longer, what's the time period, do you think?

12 A. I don't know. I couldn't give you a  
13 precise opinion on that.

14 Q. What about alcohol withdrawal symptoms?

15 A. They can last longer. Usually, the time  
16 of onset is within 72 hours of cessation. But  
17 especially when you're talking about delirium  
18 tremens, that can go on for days and days.

19 Q. Can it go on for weeks?

20 A. Not weeks.

21 Q. Can it start weeks after?

22 A. No, it cannot.

23 Q. And by "delirium tremens," what do you  
24 mean by that?

25 A. The DTs, the typical symptoms: Visual

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1 hallucinations, auditory hallucinations, tactile.  
2 I won't call them hallucinations. But you can have  
3 odd tactile sensations, confusion, agitation. And  
4 then pretty much the same symptoms as we've  
5 discussed with the others.

6 Q. Would not knowing what kind of work you  
7 had done prior to incarceration be a delirium  
8 tremens?

9 A. That's a pretty --

10 MR. MCGARRY: Object to form.

11 A. -- nonspecific --

12 MR. MCGARRY: Sorry, Judd.

13 A. Oh.

14 MR. MCGARRY: Object to form. Go ahead.

15 A. Okay. That's a pretty nonspecific  
16 complaint. So that could be part of that.

17 Q. Okay. Do you recall receiving any  
18 information from Mike Johnson that's not contained  
19 in these notes?

20 A. I don't.

21 Q. As you reviewed these notes, did you see  
22 anything in there that you thought would be  
23 specific, as it relates to a delirium tremens?

24 A. No, I did not. These symptoms are  
25 nonspecific. There are a lot of different disease

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1 encephalopathy. Specifically, there is a finding  
2 of fetor hepaticus. The breath smells fruity,  
3 yeah, oftentimes in these individuals. Sometimes  
4 there will be jaundice. They can be quite agitated  
5 as well. But once again, those fall under many  
6 subheadings. But those are the things you might  
7 typically see in that case.

8 Q. Okay. If you suspect that somebody has  
9 metabolic encephalopathy, what's the appropriate  
10 course of treatment?

11 A. The appropriate course of treatment in  
12 that case, several things. One, you treat the  
13 agitation. Number two, you also would give them  
14 either neomycin or lactulose. Those help reduce  
15 ammonia levels. Typically, you'd give them  
16 thiamine, because anyone with hepatic  
17 encephalopathy is usually thiamine deficient.  
18 They're also usually deficient in other vitamins,  
19 so we typically give them a multi-vitamin. We give  
20 them thiamine. You would treat them with lactulose  
21 or neomycin. You would treat their agitation as  
22 well. You know, those are the main things --

23 Q. Okay.

24 A. -- that you would use.

25 Q. What diagnostic tools do you have

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1 available to you to diagnose metabolic  
2 encephalopathy?

3 A. Once again, the blood work. You can  
4 sometimes get a clue. If the acid base balance is  
5 out of the norm, that can be reflected in a  
6 comprehensive metabolic panel. An arterial blood  
7 gas would also tell you some of those items. An  
8 ammonia level. Although, an ammonia level needs to  
9 be drawn arterially to get the best product. So an  
10 arterial draw is something that generally only  
11 takes place in the hospital.

12 Q. Okay. How about an MRI?

13 A. I would not say that that's useful.

14 Q. Okay. How soon should a person be treated  
15 when they have metabolic encephalopathy?

16 MR. MCGARRY: Object to form.

17 A. You would like to treat that person when  
18 you first realize that that's what's going on.

19 Q. Why is that?

20 A. Quicker recovery.

21 Q. Okay. Can encephalopathy cause permanent  
22 damage?

23 MR. MCGARRY: Object to the form.

24 MR. MYLAR: Object. Also --

25 A. Permanent?

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1 nursing staff and myself are all on board with  
2 this -- is: You know, the patient comes first.  
3 Whatever we need to do to make sure we protect the  
4 patient. So no. If Mike had felt that the patient  
5 needed to be transported or thought there was even  
6 a question, we would have transported him at that  
7 time.

8 Q. Okay.

9 A. I'm not going to keep someone in the jail  
10 when the appropriate course of action is to have  
11 them seen in the emergency room.

12 Q. Which makes your ability to rely on  
13 Mr. Johnson critical; isn't that true?

14 A. It does. It does.

15 Q. Outside of the -- I know you don't keep  
16 notes of -- or records outside the jail.

17 Do you have any procedures or protocols  
18 for following up on patients, who you know have  
19 been having some sort of symptoms, like being dazed  
20 and confused?

21 MR. MCGARRY: Let me just ask for a  
22 clarification.

23 MR. SCHRIEVER: Yeah.

24 MR. MCGARRY: You mean -- so a patient who  
25 is still an inmate, when you say "following up,"

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1 not somebody who's been transferred to the  
2 emergency department or been released from the  
3 jail, but is still incarcerated?

4 MR. SCHRIEVER: Correct, and I can make it  
5 more specific.

6 Q. For example, in this case, Mr. Johnson --  
7 the records indicate that he contacted you on June  
8 28th.

9 Do you have any kind of tickler system or  
10 policies or procedures where on June 29th you would  
11 call and say, "Hey, what's going on with Inmate  
12 Crowson?"

13 A. I don't. Mr. Crowson was transported to  
14 booking or moved from wherever he was before to the  
15 booking area, which is immediately adjacent to  
16 medical. And when they are moved to booking,  
17 medical will do rounds on them every shift, and I  
18 believe the deputies check on them every 30  
19 minutes. And so there's pretty close observation.  
20 So that ensures good follow-up. And then if  
21 something occurs during their rounds or if they're  
22 notified by a deputy, they would give me a call.

23 Q. Okay. Now, I'm not necessarily familiar  
24 with hospital protocol or the way hospitals work.

25 But you have worked in a hospital; right?

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1 A. Correct.

2 Q. When you have patients under your care in  
3 a hospital, is there a -- is there a time period in  
4 which the doctor is going to say, "All right. I  
5 need to check up on this patient," or is there --  
6 how did that work?

7 MR. MCGARRY: Object to form. Incomplete  
8 hypothetical.

9 MR. MYLAR: Join.

10 A. In a hospitalized patient, you would round  
11 on them daily. That's a minimum.

12 Q. Okay. And that's the doctor is going to  
13 round on them daily?

14 A. Correct.

15 Q. And then the nurses are there in addition  
16 to that; right?

17 A. Correct.

18 Q. In the jail system, that's different?

19 A. It's not a hospital.

20 Q. Right. But the purpose of putting him in  
21 booking was so that he could be under observation;  
22 right?

23 A. Correct.

24 Q. And so the nurses are there checking on  
25 him once per shift at a minimum?

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1 him started on the Librium and allow that to kick  
2 in.

3 Q. What's the time frame you expect them to  
4 have a response to that?

5 A. That can be difficult, especially with  
6 alcohol withdrawal. Some people, it takes a lot of  
7 benzodiazepine to achieve a response. And then  
8 other cases, they'll have a response quite rapidly.  
9 So that is -- there is a huge amount of  
10 variability.

11 Q. Okay. And the patients that have the  
12 response rapidly, is that within minutes?

13 A. No. It would probably be within 30  
14 minutes to an hour --

15 Q. Okay.

16 A. -- with a rapid-acting medication like  
17 Ativan. Possibly longer with Librium.

18 Q. Okay. Would you expect to take more than  
19 a day to have a response?

20 A. It can. It can, but I would hope there  
21 would be some improvement.

22 Q. How about two days?

23 A. You know, once again, in some individuals,  
24 it takes a lot. But two days, I would hope to have  
25 seen a response.

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1 Q. Okay. Now, on the 29th, were you aware  
2 that Mr. Crowson had been in booking since the  
3 25th?

4 A. I think the only time I -- I'm not  
5 positive when -- of that time frame. I'm not  
6 positive that I knew.

7 Q. Okay.

8 A. I -- let me restate that. I didn't know  
9 at that time how long he had been in booking.

10 Q. Okay. And we already talked about  
11 earlier, but you did not know that he was up in A  
12 block --

13 A. I did not. The first --

14 Q. -- before that?

15 A. I thought he was -- when I thought he was  
16 in booking was when I received the call from Mike  
17 Johnson.

18 Q. All right. Down there at the note from  
19 6-29-2014 at 3:36 P.M., it's Mr. Johnson's update  
20 on his visit with Mr. Crowson at that time.

21 Were you provided information about that  
22 visit?

23 A. I don't recall. I don't recall on that.

24 Q. Okay. How about June 30th?

25 There's no note there. Do you have any

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1 recollection of being provided information about  
2 Mr. Crowson on June 30th?

3 A. I don't.

4 Q. And then July 1st, 2014, Ryan Borrowman's  
5 note indicates he was sent to the ER for more  
6 in-depth evaluation.

7 Is that something he discussed with you?

8 A. It is.

9 Q. You didn't have any objection to doing  
10 that; right?

11 A. Of course not.

12 Q. And if Mr. Johnson, on June 25th, 2014,  
13 would have recommended that, you would have had no  
14 objection to that either; correct?

15 A. They are my eyes and ears.

16 Q. Are you aware of any standards or criteria  
17 for diagnosing alcohol withdrawal symptoms?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. What standards are you aware of?

20 A. Oh, we look for agitation. Once again,  
21 hallucination, verbal and auditory confusion.  
22 Usually, you're going to have the tachycardia. So  
23 those are kind of the standard things that are  
24 looked for.

25 Q. All right. Anything in these notes or

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1 what you know now, were those reasonable thoughts  
2 and information that they might think he's  
3 withdrawing, based upon the records?

4 A. It could have been. You know, that was  
5 certainly one of the top options in the  
6 differential.

7 Q. Okay. All right. And if someone just  
8 starts to exhibit some symptoms of withdrawal in a  
9 jail, that's not the time necessarily to send them  
10 right off to the hospital, is it?

11 A. We deal with withdrawal all the time in  
12 the prison setting. And in fact, the emergency  
13 room will send these patients to us, you know, when  
14 it -- when their symptoms become such -- I'll use  
15 alcohol withdrawal as a specific one. Because it's  
16 the one we see most commonly, and it's easy to  
17 state clearly. But when their symptoms become such  
18 that you think they're on the verge of DTs or even  
19 if they go into delirium tremens, that can be a  
20 life-threatening event. And that's when we send  
21 them back.

22 Otherwise, we deal with a lot of their  
23 symptoms at the time with what we have available.  
24 And usually, it's a Librium taper. They will have  
25 the tachycardia, the nausea, the diaphoresis.

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1       A.    No.  If there's an -- if there's a thought  
2 that we need to transfer them, we always err on the  
3 side of transporting.

4       Q.    And Mr. Borrowman did?

5       A.    He did.

6       Q.    Have you spoken with either of them, or do  
7 you have any knowledge as to why they viewed this  
8 situation so differently?

9       A.    I have not.  On review of the records,  
10 even in Ryan Borrowman's case, I didn't see the  
11 vital signs there.  I -- it was more of a gestalt  
12 on his part, I think, that the patient was doing  
13 poorly.  There may have been vital signs recorded;  
14 I just didn't see them.  But if he's going to tell  
15 me the patient needs to go, I'm sending him.

16      Q.    Do you know what the results of the chest  
17 x-ray were?

18      A.    They were negative, I believe, in that  
19 there was no pathologic process noted.

20      Q.    No signs of infection either; right?

21      A.    No, there was not.

22      Q.    Okay.  You talked about -- with  
23 Mr. Mylar's questions, you talked about seizures,  
24 seizure activity, being a sign of withdrawal; is  
25 that correct?

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1 A. It can be, yes.

2 Q. No indication of seizure activity with  
3 Mr. Crowson; right?

4 A. There was none noted.

5 Q. Okay. What is the jail policy as to when  
6 a patient should be transported to an emergency  
7 room?

8 A. I'm not aware of any set policy. There  
9 may be. I'm not aware of one. It, usually, is  
10 based on a discussion between the nursing staff and  
11 myself.

12 Q. Okay.

13 A. Our unwritten policy, you know, is protect  
14 the patient, protect our license.

15 Q. What role did Mr. Crowson's prior drug use  
16 play in his encephalopathy?

17 MR. MCGARRY: Object to form.

18 A. It could have played a huge role in his  
19 hepatic encephalopathy. You're not going to  
20 develop hepatic encephalopathy de novo. You have  
21 to have injured your liver to the point where it's  
22 in a tenuous situation, where one more insult can  
23 tip you over the edge where your body is not  
24 able -- where your liver is not able to eliminate  
25 the ammonia, which is typically what we see go.